

REMARKS

Claims 8-12 and 19 are pending. By this Amendment, claims 1-7 and 13-18 are canceled without prejudice or disclaimer, and claims 8-12 and 19 are amended. No new matter is presented.

Claims 8, 10-12, and 19 Allowable

Applicants respectfully acknowledge and appreciate the indication by the Examiner that claims 8, 10-12, and 19, though objected to for being dependent upon a rejected base claim, would be allowable if rewritten in independent form, including all of the features of the rejected base claim and any intervening claims.

Accordingly, Applicants have rewritten and/or amended claims 8, 10-12, and 19 to be in independent form so as to include all of the features recited by rejected base claim 7, and any intervening claims (none). Thereby placing claims 8, 10-12, and 19 in condition for allowance.

Furthermore, Applicants have also amended claim 9 so as to depend from any one of allowable claims 8, 10-12, and 19, thereby placing claim 9 in condition for allowance.

Claims 1-7 and 13-18 Canceled/Related Rejections Should Be Withdrawn

Claims 1-7 and 13-18 have been canceled herein without prejudice or disclaimer. As such, Applicants respectfully submit that since claims 8-12 and 19 are allowable for the reasons discussed above and the remaining claims, i.e., claims 1-7 and 13-18, have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer, each rejection from the Office Action is moot and should be withdrawn.

Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, reconsideration of the application, withdrawal of the outstanding rejections, allowance of claims 8-12 and 19, and the prompt issuance of a Notice of Allowability are respectfully solicited.

Should the Examiner believe anything further is desirable in order to place this application in better condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

In the event this paper is not considered to be timely filed, the Applicants respectfully petition for an appropriate extension of time. Any fees for such an extension, together with any additional fees that may be due with respect to this paper, may be charged to counsel's Deposit Account No. 01-2300, **referencing docket number 101160-00017.**

Respectfully submitted,
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Enclosures: Petition for Extension of Time (2 months)
Amendment and Fee Transmittal

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